



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.1725 | FAX (517) 373.0741
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/mcmanus/

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Contact: Emily Carney
(517) 373-1725

McManus Says **NO** to Tax Increases

Senator Fights for Michigan Families, Businesses

(LANSING) – Allowing for tax increases to solve the state’s budget woes is not healthy tax policy, and today state Senator Michelle McManus, R-Lake Leelanau, joined Republican colleagues to announce they will not allow such increases for the health of Michigan’s families and businesses.

“The governor’s proposal, with few exceptions, does not close loopholes – it changes current tax policy and increases taxes for Michigan’s families and businesses,” McManus said. “Every dollar of the proposed increases will be one less dollar Michigan families have to put food on their tables, invest in their futures and spend at Michigan businesses to rejuvenate our economy.”

At a joint news conference conducted this week, Senate Finance Committee members and House Tax Policy Committee members announced they are opposed to any tax increases, and will work to pass legislation that includes four legitimate tax policy changes.

Among the 15 tax policy changes announced by the administration earlier this year, joint committee members cite 11 as tax increases, with the other four being reasonable tax policy changes. Those changes are intended to create a level playing field between resident and non-resident tax policy.

(MORE)

“In times of shrinking state revenues, we should be looking at ways to strengthen our economy by encouraging business to grow and expand,” McManus, a member of the Senate Finance and Appropriations committee, said. “But under the governor’s proposal, the only businesses that will grow and expand are those outside the state of Michigan.”

House Bills 4566 and 4570-4576 were passed out of the Senate Finance Committee today and now await consideration by the full Senate.

“We must cut spending and conserve resources and not further stifle the economy by increasing the tax burden on Michigan families,” McManus said.

-- 30 --

Editor’s Note: A downloadable photograph of Senator McManus and her Republican colleagues saying to tax increases is available on the Senate Majority photowire is available at: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Index.htm>